

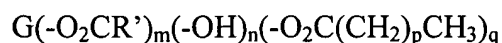


AMENDMENT TO ABSTRACT

Replace the original Abstract with the following Abstract:

-- ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

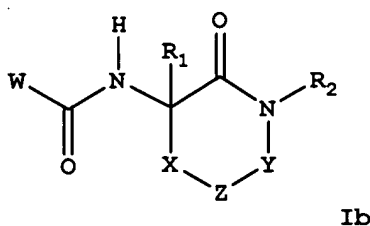
Prodrugs of glycogen phosphorylase inhibiting compounds are provided which are useful in treating diabetes, having the formula I



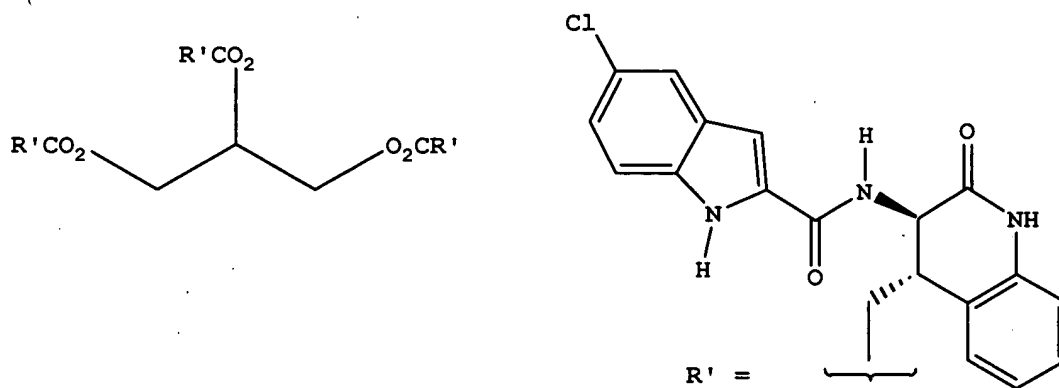
I

wherein G is a C<sub>3</sub> to C<sub>5</sub> branched or straight carbon chain and (-O<sub>2</sub>CR'), (-OH) and (-O<sub>2</sub>C(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>) are attached to any available carbon atom along G;

-O<sub>2</sub>CR' is a fragment of a compound of formula Ib



where W is a bicyclic heteroaryl; m, n, p, q, X, Y, Z, R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are as defined herein, as exemplified by



Further provided are pharmaceutical compositions and methods for treating diabetes and related diseases employing the above compounds above, either alone or in combination with another therapeutic agent. --